

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3611

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ASUNCION 3051

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PA
SUBJECT: WOLA REPRESENTATIVES MEET WITH PRESS ON LAINO CASE:
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

REF: ASUNCION 3022

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM THE WOLA
REPRESENTATIVES' PRESS CONFERENCE HELD JULY 25. AN INTERPRETER
TRANSLATED THE ANSWERS FROM ENGLISH INTO SPANISH DURING THE MEETING.

BEGIN TEXT.

Q. QUE RELACION TIENE LA EMBAJADA AMERICANA CON SU VENIDA AL
PARAGUAY?

A. HNA. IT WAS CLEARLY THE DECISION OF WOLA, BUT...
WE DID ASK ADVICE FROM MANY QUARTERS, INCLUDING ONE OF THE PLACES
WE ASKED ADVICE FROM WAS THE EMBASSY. OTHER THAN THAT, WHEN WE
ARRIVED WE MADE A COURTESY CALL ON THE EMBASSY AND THEY HAD GREAT
INTEREST IN THIS CASE.

DR. BROWN: THEY HAD NO PART, WHATSOEVER IN THE PREPARATION OF
PLANS FOR OUR COMING HERE, THIS IS SOLELY AN IDEA OF WOLA.

Q. CUAL FUE EL OBJETIVO DE LA VISITA DE LA HNA. EN EL '77
AL PARAGUAY, EN QUELLAS 24 HORAS?

A. HNA: ACTUALLY I WAS ON A TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA AND I HAD TO
CHANGE PLACES ON MY FLIGHT FROM MONTEVIDEO TO LIMA.

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Q. PORQUE TOMO CONTACTO CON ESOS FUNCIONARIOS DE LA
POLICIA Y COMPANIA EN ESA ESTADO?

A. HNA. OK. I WAS SURPRISED BY THE VISIT MYSELF. I WORK IN AN
OFFICE THAT IS CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS. I VISITED THE AMERICAN
EMBASSY WHO KNEW I WAS COMING. I HAD 21 HOURS. I WANTED TO TALK
WITH HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS AND THE EMBASSY ARRANGED THIS MEETING WITH
THE SUB-MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR WHO DEALT WITH POLITICAL PRISONERS.

Q. CON QUE OTRAS PERSONAS, APARTE DEL DR. BESTARD, HABLO EN ESA OPORTUNIDAD?

A. HNA. WITH THE U.S. EMBASSY, CHURCH GROUPS, A SESSION WITH THE INTER-CHURCH COMMITTEE.

Q. CUALES SON LAS FUENTES DE INFORMACION QUE RECIBE DE AMERICA LATINA A WOLA?

A. DR. BROWN: THE SOURCES THAT PROVIDE INFORMATION ARE A VERY BROAD GROUPING OF CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES.

HNA.: I WOULD ALSO SAY WE READ THE FOREIGN PRESS PUBLICATIONS, US GOVERNMENT, PRESS IN THE UNITED STATES. THERE ARE MANY NEWSLETTERS

,
BROCHURES WE RECEIVE, FROM GROUPS IN LATIN AMERICA, FROM WHO ARE HERE, FORM LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO ARE IN NEW YORK. ITS A TREMENDOUS COMBINATION FROM EVERYWHERE.

Q. CUAL FUE EL INTERES ESPECIICO, EL INTERES PURO DE WOLA AL INVITAR AL DR. LAINO?

A. DR. BROWN: DR. LAINO REPRESENTED TO US AN IMPORTANT LEADER ENGAGED IN DOMOCRATIC PROCESSES HERE AND WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONTACT MADE WITH IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING MANY PEOPLE IN THE U.S. WHOWE FEEL THAT FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER ARE IMPORTANT. ONE HAS TO REMEMBER THAT IT SI VERY DIFFICULT--THAT FOR THE MOST PART 85 PERCENT OF THE VISITORS WHO COME FROM LATIN AMERICA ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE COUNTRIES FROM WHICH THEY COME. ONE OF THE FUNCTIONS OF OUR OFFICE IS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THOSE FREE, DEMOCRATIC IDEAS OR THOUGHTS WHICH ORIGI-
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NATE WITHING THE COUNTRY THEMSELVES TO SEEK TO TRY TO GAIN EXPRESSION WITHIN THE IMPORTANT AREAS, WITHING PRINCIPALLY THE CONGRESSIONAL AREA, THE EXECUTIVE, STATE DEPARTMENT.

HNA.: ALLOW ME TO GIVE YOU SOME SAMPLES, JUST SO YOU KNOW ITS NOT ONLY PARAGUAY WE FOCUS ON. WE HAVE INTEREST IN ALL OF LATIN AMERICA.

AMONG THE GUESTS WE HAVE HAD ARE EDUARDO FRIE OF CHILE, LA SRA. CHAMORRO DE NICARAGUA, LA SRA. NAPOLEON DUARTE, DEL SALVADOR, EL EX-SENADOR HIPOLITO SOLARI IRIGOYEN DE AGRENTINA, Y OTROS LIKE THE GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE CHRISTAIN DEMOCRATS WOULD ORGANIZATION.

HNA.: 85 PERCENT OF THE PEOPLE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES INVITES TO THE US ARE USUALLY OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATI
VES.

WE LIKE TO COMPENSATE.

Q. INFORMACIONES QUE PROPORCIONO ACA EL DPTO. DE POLICIA SOBRE SUS ACTIVIDADES EN LOS EEUU. ESTAN AVALADAS PRO ALGUN DOCUMENTO EN INGLES QUE SEGUN, PROVIENE DEL SENADO DE LOS EE.UU., DONDE SE ESTUDIO SU CASO VARIAS VECES CON RESPECTO A ACTIVIDADES ILICITAS REALIZADAS EN LOS EE.UU. CON RESPECTO A LA GUERRA DEL VIETNAM, ACTIVIDADES DE AGITACION SUBVERSIVA?

A. HNA.: THE POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS A PAGE FROM A DOCUMENT SUPPOSEDLY PUBLISHED IN 1972, WHEN I WAS TEACHING HIGH SCHOOL IN DENVER, COLORADO. IT SHOWS A MARIE LOUISE GREENBERG WHO WAS

BORN IN 1940 IN NEW FOUNDLAND. OK. THIS PERSON IS NOT ME. I
DONT KNOW HER AND I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THE POINT THAT THESE ARE
ACCUSATIONS. THAT IS NOT PROOF OF ANY ILLEGAL ACTIVITY. TO BE
AGAINST THE WAR IN VIETNAM WAS NOT... BUT I'M NOT MARY LOUISE
GREENBERG.

Q. REALIZARON ALGUNA ACTIVIDAD PUBLICA CONTRA LA GUERRA DEL
VIETNAM? QUE HAYAN PODIDO MOTIVAR QUE SE LE IMPUTEN ESOS
CARGOS?

DR. BROWN: THIS DOES NOT HAVE RELEVANCE TO THIS SESSION

HNA.: IF I COULD SEE THE POINT OF THE QUESTION -- WHAT THAT HAS
TO DO WITH DR. LAINO.

Q. ACA TAMBIEN SE DIJO QUE ELLA INTEGRABA LA REVOLUTIONARY UNION?

A. HNA.: IF YOU LISTENED TO THE STATEMENT THAT DR. BROWN READ,
WHEN I READ THIS ABOUT ME, IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I HEARD ABOUT THIS
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REVOLUTIONARY UNION, I NEVER EVEN KNEW THE NAME BEFORE. IT MAY BE
TRUE ABOUT SOME MARY LOUISE GREENBERG.

Q. PERO POR QUE LA VINCULAN CON ELLA?

A. HNA.: I HAVE NO IDEA. LA PRIMERA VINCULACION ERA EN LA PRESNSA
DE HOY.

DR. BROWN: ELLA TIENE US PASAPORTE QUE PUEDE VERIFICAR.

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FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3612

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Q. TIENE EN CONSIDERACION DE LA IDEOLOGIA DE LA PERSONA A
QUIEN VA A INVITAR O INVITA?

A. HNA.: THE BASIC CRITERIA IS THAT THEY ARE LEGITIMATE
SPOKESMEN FOR DEMOCRACY IN THEIR COUNTRY.

Q. COMO CALIFICA AL GOBIERNO QUE RIGE ACTUALMENTE EN LE PAIS?

A. I PREFER NOT TO QUALIFY IT WITH MY OWN WORDS. PLEASE REFER TO THE BLUE BOOK. WE BASE OUR INTERPRETATIONS ON THE GOVERNMENT OF PARAGUAY ON THE REPORT OF THE OAS AND ON THE PRESENTATIONS, FOR EXAMPLE, OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THIS IS THE ENGLISH VERSION. AND BOTH OF THESE REPORTS FIND THE SITUATION REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEOCRACY ONE FOR GREAT CONCERN, IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE OAS, THEY VOTED TO MONITOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN PARAGUAY. WOLA SHARES THIS VERY SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PARAGUAY.

Q. QUE ES CONCRETAMENTE LO QUE DESEA LOGRAR CONEESTA VISITA?

A. DR. BROWN: WE COAME TO PARAGUAY BECAUSE WE FEEL A RESPONSIBILITY FOR DR. LAINO'S PROBLEMS TODAY. HE WAS INVITED TO COME TO THE U.S. BY WOLA. HE WAS EVIDENTLY TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BECAUSE OF HIS HAVING BEEN IN THE UNITED STATES. AND WE FEEL A BREAT CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE WHO WE INVITE, SHOULD THEY BE PUNISHED WHEY THEY RETURN FROM HAVING BEEN TO THE UNITED STATES. AND ONE OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM WAS SAID TO BE THAT HE WAS CRITIZING THE GOVERNMENT OF PARAGUAY IN THE UNITED STATES. THE SITUATION IS SIMILAR HERE IN PARAGUAY, BUT THREE OR FOUR MONTHS AGO, A CONGRESSMAN UNCLASSIFIED

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FROM THE UNITED STATES, CONGRESSMAN COLLINS, HAD CONFERENCES WITH THE HIGHEST AUTHORITIES IN THE PARAGUAYAN GOVERNMENT. WHEN HE WAS IN PARAGUAY, CONGRESSMAN COLLINS CRITICIZED VERY SERVELY THE POLICY OF JUMMY CARTER, BUT WHEN HE RETURNED HE WAS NOT ARRESTED OR BOTHERED IN ANY WAY. HE WAS ABLE TO EXERCISE FREE SPEECH. DOES THAT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION?

Q. QUE QESTIONES HICIERON O HARAN CON GENTE DEL GOBIERNO?

A. WE HAVE NOT YET MET WITH ANY PARAGUAYN AUTHORITIES. WE FEEL THAT WE HAVE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS CASE OF LAINO, WE WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT IT TO THE AUTHORITIES, JUDICIAL, WHOEVER WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING THE INFORMATION. WE FEEL THAT THERE IS AN ERROR IN THE IDENTIFICATION WITH JO MARIE GREISGRABER AND MARY LOUISE GREENBERG. WE FEEL THAT IF WE WERE ASKED TO PRESENT THIS INFORMATION WE WOULD GLADLY DO IT. LLAMAMOS AL DR. BESTARD PERO NO LO ENCONTRAMOS, SEGUIREMOS LLAMANDO.

Q. HASTA CUANDO VAN A ESTAR?

A. DR. BROWN: WE WILL BE HERE AS LONG AS WE FEEL THAT WE WILL BE NEEDED. THAT WE WOULD BE OF SERVICE, AND I PERSONALLY WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE IN A FEW DAYS. WE FEEL THAT THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF THE PRESS THE FACTS THAT WE HAVE PRESENTED WILL REACH THE PEOPLE, AND UNLESS WE HAVE NOW CONCRETE EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM OFFICIALS OR OTHERS, I DON'T SEE WHAT MORE WE CAN DO.

Q. QUE OPINION TEIEN UDS. DEL PROCESO QUE SE LE SIGUE AL DR. LAINO?

A. I THINK THAT THE ELGAL PROCEDURE I EXPLAINED A MOMENT AGO-- THAT THIS WAS A RESULT OF HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. I'M NOTT FAMILIAR WITH YOUR LAWS BUT WE FEEL THAT WE HAVE A PROFOUND

RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS BEING APREHENDED...

Q. CUALES SERIAN LAS ACTIVIDADES ESPECIFICAS QUE HARIAN UDS.

A LOS EFECTOS DE QUE SE LIBERE?

A. HNA.: TALKING TO THE PRESS.

DR. BROWN: WHEN THE PEOPLE WHO COME-- IF WE FEEL THAT THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE LEADERS THAT DEAL WITH DEMOCRACY AND A CONCERN FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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HUMAN RIGHTS, WE THEN GO ABOUT ARRANGING MEETINGS WITH IMPORTANT PEOPLE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE SENATE, SENATOR KENNEDY, SENATOR CHURCH, SENATOR JAVITS, Y OTROS. IN THE CONGRESS, CONGRESSMAN FRASER AND OTHERS, AND MEMBERS OF THE STATE DEPTMEN WHO SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THIS HIGH-LEVEL OPINION. THESE PEOPLE WHOM THEY MEET AREN'T RADICALS, THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE LIBERALS OF THE UNITED STATES.

HNA.: WHEN A PERSON COMES TO THE U.S. WE REGULARLY HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE. AT THE TIME OF DR. LAINO'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON THE OAS WAS IN SESSION AND SO THERE WERE MEETING WITH THE DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHO ATTENDED.

Q. QUE CONTACTOS CON PARTIDOS POLITICOS HAN HECHO ACA?

A. WE HAVE MET WITH THE WIFE OF DR. LAINO AND WITH HIS LAWYERS

Q. AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAID THAT THERE ARE THOUSNADS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE U.S.

A. I THINK THAT YOU ARE MISQUOTING AMBASSADOR YOUNG. HE DIDN'T SAY HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, HE SAID, "HUNDREDS" AND PERHAPS "THOUSANDS". AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S THOUGHTS ABOUT THE UNITED STATES ARE HIS PERSONAL THOUGHTS. HE CAN EXPRESS THEM AND I DON'T AGREE. UNDOUBTEDLY THERE ARE PRISONERS. BUT I DON'T AGREE WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO THAT EXTENT. ONE PART OF THE QUESTION WAS IN REGARD TO THE GENOCIDE AMONST INDIANS IN THE U.S. OK. FIRST OF ALL, WOLA WAS CREATED BY CHURCH GROUPS AND ITS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY IS LATIN AMERICA, AS AN OFFICE. AS INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF WOLA, AS PRIVATE CITIZENS, WE PARTICIPATED IN THE INDIANS' MARCH ON WASHINGTO AS AN OFFICE WE ARE NOT AUTHORIZED.

Q. USTEDES TIENEN U CONOCIMINETO CABAL DE LO QUE EL DR. LAINO POLITICAMENTE HACE AQUI EN EL PAIS?

A. DR. BROWN: TEMEMOS CONCIMIENTO DE LAS ACTIVIDADES DEL DR. LAINO EN LOS ULTIMOS ANOS Y LO CONOCEMOS COMO EL REPRESENTANTE DEL PROCESO DEMOCRATICO EL EL PARAGUAY, Y COMO DIJO EL PRESIDENTE CARTER, NECESITAMOS MAS DEMOCRACIAS. WE ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH LAIN'S PAST, IN THE CARGOS DE POLICIA. NO, WE ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THAT.

Q. CUNDO YO ESTUVE EN WASHINGTON, ESCUCHE DECIR A UNA FUNCIONARIA UNCLASSIFIED

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DE WOLA QUE HABINA TRBJDO CON LOS MONTONEROS. USTED DESMIENTE O CONFIRMA ESO?

A. I'M THAT FUNCIONARA AND DO NOT WORK WITH MONTONEROS. AT ANY TIME. COMO EVIDENCIA TRAIGO A COLACION LA INVITIACION CURSAD AL SENADOR HIPOLITO SELARI IRIGOYEN. SU POSICION ES CLARA -- EL NO QUIERE TRABAJAU CON NINGUNA CLASE DE TERRORISMOS, Y EL ACEPTO LA INVITACION DE WOLA. END TEXT.

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